

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 L-03 H-02 SS-15

 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /077 W

----- 104226

P R 201914Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5147

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 27422

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CAB CHAIRMAN ROBSON'S MEETING WITH ECAC
PRESIDENT.

REF: STATE 229651

1. CAB CHAIRMAN ROBSON, ACCOMPANIED BY CAA, MET ON SEPT.
17 IN PARIS WITH HANS RABEN, PRESIDENT OF ECAC. DOZ,
SECRETARY OF ECAC, WAS ALSO PRESENT.

2. CHAIRMAN ROBSON CONVEYED REFTEL RESPONSE TO ECAC
PROPOSAL FOR CHARTER TALKS. RABEN SAID THAT HOLDING
SEPT. 30-OCT. 1 MEETING IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE
FOR ECAC, SINCE ECAC DGAC'S WOULD BE MEETING IN PARIS
SEPT. 29 FOLLOWING MEETING OF ECAC COORDINATING COMMITTEE
ATTENDED BY SEVERAL DGAC'S ON SEPT. 28. ECAC'S INITIAL
PROPOSAL THAT TRILATERAL TALKS BE HELD PARIS ON SEPT.
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30-OCT. 1 TOOK ACCOUNT OF FACT THAT DGAC'S WOULD ALREADY

BE ASSEMBLED HERE FOR THE ECAC MEETINGS ON THE PRECEDING DAYS. RABEN SAID THAT WITH SHORT TIME REMAINING IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO REVISE CALENDAR OF ECAC MEETINGS TO PERMIT TRILATERAL TALKS IN WASHINGTON ON ABOVE DATES. WHEN RABEN RECALLED THAT ECAC HAD PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE DATES OF OCT. 13-14 IN PARIS (DGAC'S MEET AGAIN HERE OCT. 15), ROBSON SAID THESE DATES MAY CONFLICT WITH CALENDAR FOR OTHER NEGOTIATIONS. IT WAS AGREED THAT ECAC REACTION WOULD BE REPORTED TO WASHINGTON FOR ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL OF WHEN MEETING MIGHT BE SCHEDULED.

3. ROBSON ALSO INDICATED THAT USG WOULD SHORTLY SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR REFORMULATED AGENDA FOR CHARTER TALKS, IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL INSTRUCTION.

4. DISCUSSION WITH RABEN FOCUSED ESSENTIALLY ON CHARTER QUESTIONS. RABEN WAS NEGATIVE ON PROSPECTS OF EVERY ECAC COUNTRY AGREEING TO PRINCIPLE OF ACCEPTANCE OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN RULE; THIS WOULD MAKE SENSE ONLY IF RULES OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION WERE THE SAME, WHICH WAS UNLIKELY TO OCCUR IN ALL US-ECAC TRAFFIC RELATIONSHIPS. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THEREFORE, ECAC REMAINED FIRMLY COMMITTED TO EARLY CONCLUSION OF A MULTILATERAL CHARTER AGREEMENT. ROBSON DID NOT INDICATE ANY PROSPECT FOR MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS AND MATTER NOT DISCUSSED FURTHER.

5. ROBSON INDICATED THAT WITH ITS NEW ABC RULE CAB HAD MADE A DETERMINED EFFORT MOVE TOWARD EUROPEAN POSITIONS WITHIN LIMITS IMPOSED BY OUR OWN SITUATION IN US AND HE STRESSED NEED FOR WORKABLE ALTERNATIVES TO BE IN PLACE BEFORE US COULD DEAL WITH LONGER STANDING CHARTER ISSUES SUCH AS AFFINITY CHARTERS. RABEN NOTED THAT ADVANCE

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BOOKING PERIOD UNDER US ABC RULE WAS OF SHORTER DURATION THAN EUROPEAN RULE AND IN TIME COULD PERHAPS BE AS SHORT AS FIFTEEN DAYS, WHICH PROMPTED HIM TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER HOW THIS MIGHT AFFECT TRAFFIC ON SCHEDULED CARRIERS. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT DIFFERING U.S. RULES FOR DIFFERENT EUROPEAN DESTINATIONS MIGHT BE DISCRIMINATORY.

6. APROPOS OF HIS EARLIER DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA WITH KNUT HAMMARSKJOLD, ROBSON SUGGESTED MIGHT BE USEFUL EXPLORE SOME WAY WHEREBY CONSISTENT WITH U.S. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, THERE COULD BE DIALOGUE WITH USG PRIOR TO EMERGENCE OF RIGID FINAL IATA POSITIONS WHICH CAB SOME-BOOKING PERIOD UNDER US ABC RULE WAS OF SHORTER DURATION THAN EUROPEAN RULE AND IN TIME COULD PERHAPS BE AS SHORT AS FIFTEEN DAYS, WHICH PROMPTED HIM TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER HOW THIS MIGHT AFFECT TRAFFIC ON SCHEDULED CARRIERS. UNCLASSIFIED

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USG DISAPPROVAL OF IATA ACTIONS. RABEN WHOLEHEARTEDLY
AGREED AND SAID THAT PROBLEM OF NORTH ATLANTIC FARES HAD
LONG BEEN SUBJECT OF PREOCCUPATION FOR ECAC AS WELL. HE
THOUGHT THAT THE MATTER SHOULD BE GIVEN CAREFUL STUDY
WITHIN ECAC.
RUSH

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To: STATE
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